

5. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein a regeneratable magnesium adsorbent is used and desulphurisation is conducted at a mean temperature in the range of 700°C to 1000°C.

6. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein after combustion step a), the fumes traverse one or more superheated steam bundles.

7. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, operated at adsorbent flow rates such that the concentration of solids in the fumes, except for the recycle, is in the range 0.1 to 1000 g/Nm<sup>3</sup>.

8. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, operated with a gas recycle ratio in the apparatus in the range of 1% to 50%.

9. (Amended) A process according to claim 8, wherein the adsorbent recycle ratio is in the range of 1 to 50.

10. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the grain size of the adsorbents is in the range of 0.1 to 1000 microns.

11. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the adsorbent particles have a density in the range of 100 to 5000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

#### REMARKS

A principal purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to remove the multiply dependent claims and avoid the fee associated therewith, applicant reserving the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.